

News Release

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Exploring the Virginia Capitol Is Just A Click Away ~ New Web Site Tracks Progress of Capitol Restoration and Extension Project ~

RICHMOND, VA – On Monday, August 9 the Commonwealth of Virginia launches a new web site for citizens to watch the progress of the Capitol Restoration and Extension Project.

As the renovation and restoration of the Capitol of Virginia begins citizens will be kept up-to-date by a new web site, www.VirginiaCapitol.gov. The new web site will document the restoration and renovation of the Capitol from the beginning until its completion in 2007.

Visitors to the web site will learn about the history of the Capitol through a timeline and an exterior pictorial history. On the right side of the home page a feature box entitled "What's New," provides current information about the renovation activities at the Capitol. There are also a series of pages explaining the dilemmas within the building and the issues prompting the renovation.

One of the highlights of the web site includes an interactive 360 degree virtual tour. The virtual tour has eight different images from which to choose. They include views of the Capitol grounds, east and west wings of the Capitol, House and Senate Chambers, as well as the priceless Houdon statue of George Washington. As the renovation progresses pictures and explanations of the renovation activities will be kept up-to-date in order to show the changes to the exterior and interior. This way visitors to www.VirginiaCapitol.gov will be able to see the renovation as it occurs instead of only seeing the finished product.

The web site, www.VirginiaCapitol.gov, also provides information about the restoration mission, speakers bureau, Virginia Capitol Preservation Foundation, related links to other web sites and much more. If citizens want to learn more about the other buildings in Capitol Square that are being renovated, such as the Finance building, Old State Library and Archives building and the Washington building, they can go to the related links page and click on *Capitol Square Improvements*.

To learn more about Virginia's Capitol Restoration and Extension Project log on to www.VirginiaCapitol.gov. To find out more about the other renovation and construction projects in Capitol Square go to the related links page and click on *Capitol Square Improvements* or visitors may log on directly to www.DGS.virginia.gov.